Sanctioning of gas agencies and petroi|diese, outlets

814. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA:
SHRI VITHALRAO MADHAV-RAO JADHAV:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are aware that Gas Agencies and Petrol/Diesel outlets have been sanctioned recently without routine the proposals through the oil selection Boards; and

(b) if so, what were the compelling reasons to circumvent the procedure?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M. S GU-. RUPADASWAMY) : (a) and (b) Retail Outlets (Diesel/Petrol) dealerships and LPG distributorships have been sanctioned to candidates selected by the Oil Selection Boards. However, in, the interest of better service to customers, a few direct distributor-ships have been given recently to Public Sector Undertakings, Defence Establishments, Cooperative Societies/ Project authorities and Public Charitable Trusts for their exclusive use. In addition some dealerships/distri-butorships have also been granted at the discretion of Government on merits of individual cases. A few 2/3 wheeler retail outlets started on an experimental basis were awarded to candidates through selection by the oil companies.

815. *[Transferred to the 21st August,* 1990.]

Utilisation of natural gas

816. DR. G. VIJAYA MOHAN REDDY; Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 794 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th March,- 1990 and state:

(a) whether additional facilities have since been created to bring the gas that is at present being flared up in the Western Offshore fields to Onshore for supplying to the consumers; if so, what are the details thereof; and

(.b) what steps Government have taken to fully utilise the natural gas that has been found in Krishna-Go-davari Basin, both offshore and onshore?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI M.S. GU-RUPADASWAMY) : (a) ONGC have prepared a project proposal for setting up additional facilities for compression and transportation of associated gas in the Bombay Offshore area. The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 2002 crores.

This project is currently under consideration of the Government. It is expected that with the implementation of this project flaring of gas would be stopper in the Bombay Offshore Region by 1993-94.

In addition to the above, the Heera-Uran Trunk Pipeline having facilities for gas compression is also being commissioned shortly by ONGC. This will help in reducing flaring of Heera gas to the tune of about 1.5 MMCMD.

(b) The natural gas produced in Onshore KG Basin being non-associated gas, the production corresponds to demand.

Presently, 33,000 MMCMD gas is being produced from free gas fields of KG Basin (Onshore) and the same is being supplies to the consumers, 0.4 MMCMD of gas supply to APSEB power plant at Kovvur is likely to start shortly.

A project for setting up a gas pipe line from Tatipaka to Kakinada has been submitted by GAIL and is currently under consideration of Government. This would facilitate the